

2016

HYDE VINEYARD CHARDONNAY

Carneros



PATZ & HALL



RELEASE DATE: September 2018
CASES PRODUCED: 1,388
LABEL ALCOHOL: 14.2%

VINEYARD CHARACTER

Purchased by Larry Hyde in 1979, and planted two years later, this renowned property is cultivated as 44 distinct blocks. The Hyde-Wente selection used for this Chardonnay is planted on the best soils at Hyde: very low vigor and extremely well-drained sandy, clay loam, which lower the yields even more than usual for this small-berried clone.

VINTAGE NOTES

2016 was another fantastic growing season. It started out with good winter rainfall, which after four years of drought, was a big relief. While the summer of 2016 was quite hot, a perfectly timed cool-down over a three-week period in August allowed the grapes to ripen with moderate sugar levels. It also preserved the acidity that is so essential to making great Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Thus, the quality is exceptional with vivid, alluring flavors in the Chardonnays and deep colors and gorgeous aromatics in the Pinot Noir.

TASTING NOTES

This Chardonnay is from blocks planted exclusively for Patz & Hall in 1999 using the famous "Hyde Wente" selection of Chardonnay. The 2016 vintage shows classic characters of delicate white flowers, honey, orange peel and toasted almond. A slight whisper of faraway camp fire accents the fresh green apple and butter cookie notes in the mouth. This wine is at once delicate, powerful, elusive and evocative. A lingering richness fans out across the palate revealing an impeccably clean, layered acidic finish. A classic year for this iconic site.

WINEMAKING

- 100% Chardonnay fruit
- 100% Whole-cluster pressed
- 100% indigenous yeast fermentations
- *Sur lie* aged with weekly stirring
- 100% malo-lactic fermentation in barrel
- 100% Burgundian French oak barrels (40% new; 60% 1-2-year old)
- Bottled without filtration to preserve the wine's aromas and flavors and enhance aging potential

THE PATZ & HALL FAMILY OF WINEGROWERS

Larry Hyde and Family - Hyde Vineyard - Carneros, Napa Valley

Hyde Vineyard has justifiably become one of the superstar vineyards in Carneros. Through many years of dedicated research, planting and winemaking, Larry Hyde has developed two of the most important grape selections in California: Hyde-Wente Chardonnay and Hyde-Calera Pinot Noir. Both are noted for extremely low yields, primarily due to the very small berry size within each cluster. The Chardonnay from Hyde is some of the most sought-after fruit in the pantheon of great California vineyards.

James Hall
JAMES HALL | Winemaker

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